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I. Introduction

1. The issue of mine action has been on the agenda of the General Assembly since 1993 and has been considered annually since that time. Most recently, in its resolution 53/26 of 17 November 1998, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-fourth session a report on the progress achieved on all relevant issues outlined in his previous reports to the Assembly on assistance in mine clearance, as well as on the operation of the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Clearance (now renamed Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action).

2. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request. It provides information on the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system, as well as those of other bodies and non-governmental organizations doing similar work in mine action. The most familiar mine action programmes in afflicted countries such as Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia and Croatia are included here, as are very recent activities now being undertaken in Chad, Kosovo, Nicaragua and Somalia. In the context of increased demands on limited resources, the functioning of the Voluntary Trust Fund is also of particular relevance.

3. National and local approaches to the problem of clearance have existed for decades. Mine action agencies and international humanitarian programmes are, however, a relatively new and distinct response. Most are less than 10 years old, and have accomplished much in terms of saving lives, but the principal reason for their creation is that the full extent of the landmine crisis is now understood to go beyond the clearance issue. It is now recognized that a fundamental need exists explicitly to address humanitarian implications.

4. Responding to requests made by the General Assembly in resolution 53/26, all relevant bodies within the United Nations structure have maintained and improved their respective efforts in the area of mine assistance. The responses of United Nations agencies to the Assembly's requests are described in the present report. Special note is made of the accomplishments of the United Nations Mine Action Service in collaborating with and coordinating all mine-related activities of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes.

II. Review of coordinated mine action

A. Inter-sessional meetings and processes related to the Ottawa Convention

5. In order to consolidate and concentrate global mine action efforts and to highlight the role of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (the Ottawa Convention) as a comprehensive framework for mine action, the First Meeting of the States Parties, held in Maputo, decided to establish an inter-sessional work programme. The aim is to organize the work within the framework of the Convention in a way that promotes continuity, openness, transparency, inclusiveness and a cooperative spirit.

6. Five informal standing committees of experts were established to focus on (a) mine clearance; (b) victim assistance, socio-economic reintegration and mine awareness; (c) technologies for mine action; (d) stockpile destruction; and (e) general status and operation of the Convention. Co-chairs and co-rapporteurs were designated in such a way as to ensure the active participation of both mine-affected States and donor States.

7. The meetings of the standing committees are open to all Governments, relevant international organizations, and non-governmental organizations, and their organization is supported by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining. The work of the standing committees should build on the approach and spirit of inclusivity and engagement present in the Ottawa process, the Oslo negotiations and the First Meeting of the States Parties. The first meetings of the standing committees took place in Geneva in September on mine clearance and on victim assistance, socio-economic reintegration and mine awareness. Supporting the work done in other forums, in particular the work of the United Nations Mine Action Service, they contributed to maintaining the momentum and cohesion behind the global humanitarian mine action effort.

B. The use of national militaries

8. United Nations involvement with the militaries of mine-contaminated countries is very closely regulated. This is for a number of different reasons, the most compelling being the fact that the armed forces in selected countries operate along party lines and can be major political instruments, if not political players themselves. Recognizing

that the United Nations must respect the fundamental principles of neutrality and impartiality, it has been determined that training or support for mine action will not be provided to the militaries of mine-contaminated countries. At the same time, however, the United Nations is well aware that national armed forces often possess valuable technical expertise that could be put to good use in a mine-contaminated environment.

9. In an effort to reconcile that situation, policy guidelines have been drafted that allow for United Nations support of government mine action programmes that include collaborative arrangements with the militaries. Considered on a case-by-case basis, such circumstances and support require, at a minimum, that, (a) militaries are not party to any conflict, open or latent; and (b) the overall coordination, control and priority-setting of mine action is the responsibility of civilian authorities in-country.

C. Assessment missions

10. Assessment missions continue to be a key element of United Nations mine action activities and have proved instrumental in developing a better understanding of the global landmine threat and in ensuring that an integrated approach is adopted by the United Nations system in its efforts to provide assistance. Specifically, assessment missions play a critical role in determining the varied impact landmines have in mine-afflicted countries around the world. By adapting an inter-agency and multi-disciplinary approach coordinated by the United Nations Mine Action Service in identifying local conditions and concerns, the United Nations is better able to tailor mine action assistance to fit individual countries' needs. The landmine problem in the Sudan, for example, is primarily of a humanitarian nature, while landmines in Yemen pose more of a threat to long-term socio-economic development. In Ecuador and Peru, mine action, in addition to being a key element of the peace-building process, is more of a human rights issue in the sense that landmines affect primarily isolated indigenous populations.

11. Assessment missions examine the requirements associated with each component of a comprehensive and integrated mine action programme. An evaluation is made taking into account the following: local capacities for mine action; the security situation; the willingness of all parties to support a mine action programme; and the impact of mines on the population from humanitarian, health, socio-economic and developmental perspectives.

12. Of the 10 assessment missions planned in 1999, 4 have been completed, to Ecuador, Jordan, Lebanon, and Peru. Ten additional missions are being considered for the year 2000, although the United Nations's ability to implement this work plan fully has been impeded by several factors, including the recent Kosovo crisis and continuing staffing difficulties at the United Nations Mine Action Service.

D. National surveys

13. As part of the process of formulating an effective response to the landmine crisis, one of the first and most critical things the United Nations must do is identify the level of assistance required in any particular country, and then identify those mine-affected countries where sustainable mine action activities can be successfully initiated. In doing so, a critical tool is the conduct of a level I survey, which not only locates mined and suspected mined areas, but also measures the impact of mine contamination on civilian populations by collating and analysing relevant topographic, demographic and socio-economic data collected during the survey.

14. Building on data initially collected in assessment missions, a level I survey identifies the scope of the landmine problem down to the community level. Through rapid rural appraisal techniques that have been developed by selected non-governmental organizations and international institutions for use in general humanitarian assistance and development programmes, the survey draws upon community knowledge and local perceptions of the social and economic impact of mines within peoples' own communities.

15. The survey provides policy makers at all levels with information that can assist them in determining general mine action priorities and, more specifically, estimate the level of personnel and financial requirements required of a fledging national mine action programme. The survey process allows problem areas to be geographically identified, prioritized and mapped using a geographic information system (GIS), ensuring that efforts are consistently focused on areas with the greatest need. The contribution to the decision-making process of survey data is equally valuable to the different components of a mine action programme: mine awareness, advocacy, victim assistance and mine marking and clearance efforts all benefit from information collected in surveys.

E. Information management

16. Recognizing the scope of the landmine problem and the myriad different factors needing to be considered in implementing mine action programmes, the development of an information management system is a priority for the United Nations Mine Action Service. Developed for the Service by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) will provide mine action agencies, donors and the United Nations with a unified information and management system to enhance collaborative decision-making for mine action.

17. The first phase of the project, the development of a field module, has just been completed. Designed for use within mine-affected countries, the field module incorporates a database and GIS capability that will facilitate the storage, collation and analysis of mine-related information. Building on the past experiences of a number of existing mine action programmes, the module is capable of processing and displaying the full spectrum of information necessary in support of international mine action activities. Relevant information would include all data gathered in the survey process, the ability to process data relating to the impact of mine contamination and mine awareness and victim assistance-related data. Field modules have already been made available and will be disseminated in the future as new programmes are undertaken. Instruction in procedures for the use of the system is currently under way and database personnel from seven different programmes have been selected to participate in the initial training session.

18. The development of the information processing module and the information dissemination module to be used at United Nations Headquarters comprise the second stage of the IMSMA project and are due for release in early 2000. Ultimately, those added capabilities will combine to establish a network linking other external and United Nations databases and forming a comprehensive information management system upon which effective strategic planning and management of mine action activities will be based.

F. Mine awareness

19. Mine awareness is an integral part of mine action and, as such, strives to complement clearance operations, survey, marking and victim assistance efforts by utilizing information management techniques in an effort to reduce mine incidents by informing and educating people of the nature of the landmine threat. Ultimately, the goal is to enable mine-affected communities to develop ways that enable them to co-exist safely with a mine threat.

20. There are a number of ways to promote "mine-smart" behaviour when confronted with a mine emergency. In Kosovo, an aggressive public information campaign was undertaken, complemented by village presentations and security briefings. In a more established landmine-contaminated environment such as Afghanistan, Cambodia or the Lao People's Democratic Republic, however, emphasis is placed on strengthening other mine action components and community-based mine awareness efforts. In general, implementing partners agree that participatory, community-based mine awareness is the key to sustainable long-term mine awareness education. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Save the Children Fund, Handicap International and the Mines Advisory Group, in cooperation with national mine action centres, have all developed comprehensive programmes based on the concepts of safer villages and community liaison. Such a community-based approach provides mine-affected communities with a voice in the overall mine action effort by providing information on minefield locations, assisting in mine marking and performing advocacy work for mine victims.

21. The release of the International Guidelines for Landmine and Unexploded Ordnance Awareness Education in May 1999 has played a crucial role in that context, providing a framework for integrated mine awareness interventions. As developed by UNICEF, the International Guidelines refer, among other things, to the various steps involved in mine awareness programme planning and implementation and contain detailed information on message content and the development of awareness materials. In addition to the Guidelines, a comprehensive package of mine awareness training materials and modules are also being developed and should be available in 2000.

G. Advocacy

22. Recent statements made by the Secretary-General in numerous public forums have significantly raised popular appreciation of the landmine crisis, and the impetus to develop immediate and effective advocacy solutions has increased correspondingly.

23. As the mine action focal point within the United Nations system, the United Nations Mine Action Service has been successful in coordinating system-wide advocacy initiatives and programmes that promote mine awareness. The United Nations Mine Action Service was an active

participant in the Maputo conference in 1999 and at the inter-sessional meetings held in Geneva, taking the opportunity once again to raise the profile of the landmine issue and to push for the total eradication of all anti-personnel landmines. In that regard, existing partnerships with non-governmental organizations, donor countries and other United Nations bodies have been broadened and new relationships have been developed.

24. The Mine Action Service has also made available a large number of advocacy tools. Newsletters and bookmarks have been published and other promotional items are being designed. A dedicated Web site on the Internet has been established and will be expanded and updated with current information. A number of exhibitions have also been organized throughout the world, in Mozambique, the United Kingdom and the United States. Public speeches made by United Nations staff reiterate the trauma and fear caused by mines in contaminated countries. By employing such proven methods and exploring the advocacy potential of new techniques, the Mine Action Service will continue to lobby on behalf of all those whose lives are affected by the presence of landmines.

H. The role of peacekeeping operations

25. It is usual for peacekeeping missions to undertake various mine action activities as part of their responsibilities in mine-affected countries. Indeed, despite the fact that the primary aim of such mine action activities would simply be to reduce the immediate threat posed by landmines to peacekeepers, such efforts ultimately mature into a more durable contribution, allowing for further long-term action to be taken by other organizations or United Nations agencies. Peacekeeping activities in a territory often allow for the first real assessment of the scope of mine/unexploded ordnance (UXO) contamination to be made, the establishment of mine information collection and dissemination systems and, when necessary, the coordination and conduct of mine/UXO clearance activities.

26. Such a proactive approach is especially apparent when a peacekeeping mission's mandate includes provisions for mine action, as is the case with the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK). The timely establishment of the mine action coordination centre in Pristina, under the auspices of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and at the outset of KFOR and United Nations deployments to the region, exemplifies the practicality of such a division of labour. Similarly, in Western Sahara mine awareness training for incoming military and civilian police personnel and United Nations staff is carried out on a regular basis. By mid-November 1998 the Force Demining Unit of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO), in conjunction with the Royal Armed Forces of Morocco and units of the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguía el-Hamra y de Rio de Oro (Frente POLISARIO) cleared more than 545,000 square metres of land. The Mine Information Cell continues to coordinate and monitor mine/UXO clearance activities in Western Sahara. In Kuwait and Lebanon, mine and UXO clearance activities are also conducted on a regular basis by the specialized military units deployed as part of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) and the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) peacekeeping forces.

I. Technology

27. It is generally acknowledged that technology will not, at least in the short term, provide significantly improved mine detection and clearance equipment for the user community. Improvements are likely to be evolutionary, with emphasis being given to better understanding the capabilities of existing technology. In that respect, an international test and evaluation programme is being developed which aims to reduce duplication of testing and evaluation efforts by adopting a common programme of equipment testing. The programme will provide transparency between establishments involved in testing and evaluation and with the donor and user communities.

28. A second major initiative is the development by the United Nations Mine Action Service of international guidelines for the criteria of mine action equipment. The aim of the guidelines is to provide for a common approach to equipment definition, by which common operational needs are identified, the availability and performance of existing equipment is published, the test results of new equipment are made available and the research and development of future technologies is discussed. This information will be brought together on a single technology Internet site, which will be accessed via the homepage of the United Nations Mine Action Service and is due to be online by December 1999.

J. International Standards for Humanitarian Mine Clearance Operations

29. At an international conference in Denmark held in July 1996, international standards for humanitarian mine clearance programmes were proposed by working groups. Criteria were prescribed for all aspects of mine clearance, standards were recommended and a new, universal definition of "clearance" was agreed to. A United Nations-led working group subsequently revised and developed the principles, resulting in what is now known as International Standards for Humanitarian Mine Clearance Operations. The first version of the standards was released by the United Nations Mine Action Service in March 1997.

30. In promoting the guidelines, it was recognized that it would be necessary to review the standards periodically to reflect developing mine action practices and procedures. To that end, the Service is currently conducting a review of the existing standards to ensure that they accurately reflect recent developments in mine clearance technology, practices and procedures. As an example, the potential of mine detection dogs to increase the efficiency and productivity of mine clearance operations is widely acknowledged by the United Nations and the wider demining community. Opinion on their specific utility and reliability, however, is divided.

31. The United Nations Mine Action Service is working on the development of an international standard to be applied to mine-detection dogs. The standard will provide comprehensive performance criteria that will be used to test and accredit mine-detection dogs. The results of the testing regime will determine the range of tasks, if any, that a dog team may conduct in any given theatre. The standard will be part of the reviewed hierarchy of policy, guidelines and standards documents that are currently under review by the Service, with assistance provided by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining.

K. United Nations Foundation

32. In exploring new avenues for resource mobilization, the United Nations Mine Action Service has worked very closely with the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships, which is the United Nations counterpart office to the United Nations Foundation established in 1997 with a $1 billion contribution from Ted Turner in support of United Nations activities.

33. The United Nations Foundation board has approved three mine action projects submitted by the United Nations Mine Action Service and valued at over $4 million. The projects include the publication of a landmine safety handbook and associated training tools that aim to provide aid workers and peacekeepers with appropriate mine awareness education; a mine information and communications technology project targeted at improving field level coordination in the mine-infested regions of southern Africa; and a $3.79 million matching grant for the conduct of level 1 surveys in selected countries and territories. Through the level 1 survey project, the United Nations Foundation will provide $1 for every $3 donated.

34. The United Nations Mine Action Service will be working in close partnership with CARE International for the landmine safety handbook, with the International Development Research Centre for the mine information and communications technology project and with the Survey Action Centre on the level 1 survey project work. Such working alliances further strengthen United Nations-non-governmental organization collaboration in the areas of mine action, both at Headquarters and in the field. Indeed, as United Nations Fund for International Partnerships/United Nations Foundation will be an important source of extrabudgetary funding within the United Nations system for the better part of the next decade, the United Nations Mine Action Service will continue to develop and seek out innovative projects that fit within the Foundation's mandate.

III. United Nations system

A. United Nations Mine Action Service

35. The major challenge for the United Nations Mine Action Service over the past 12 months has been the transition from policy formulation to implementation. When the Service was established as part of the Secretary-General's process of reform, much emphasis was placed on defining the roles of the various United Nations entities and other players in the field of mine action (see A/53/496, annex II, entitled "Mine action and effective coordination: United Nations policy). The annex to the 1998 report emphasized the coordination and priority-setting role of the Mine Action Service — a role that was difficult to fulfil without a more accurate picture of the global threat of landmines. Terms of reference have been developed to define how inter-agency assessment missions could undertake such a task. Through the period under review, four such missions have taken place and the information gathered

has assisted in the selection of countries where level I surveys should be undertaken and, equally important, where they are not needed. This logical process from assessment missions to level I surveys will provide consistent and comparable information for the IMSMA database that will allow for priority-setting by the United Nations Mine Action Service and donors. The process of selection of countries for such missions is done through the Inter-Agency Coordination Group to ensure that development, as well as humanitarian emergency considerations, are met.

36. Another principal focus during the period under review has involved programme initiation, as coordinated through the United Nations Mine Action Service, and programme implementation vis-à-vis the role of the United Nations Office for Project Services as the principal United Nations service provider. The policy framework clarified roles and responsibilities and provided a framework for consensus-building that can be illustrated by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)-initiated programmes in Chad and Yemen, and the response to Kosovo led by the Mine Action Service. Similarly, the coordination role played by the Service in Kosovo was complemented and reinforced by the implementation role assumed by the United Nations Office for Project Services in establishing and managing the field operations.

37. The overall coordination role of the Mine Action Service in the transition from policy formulation to implementation has worked well within the United Nations system, most notably through the Inter-Agency Coordination Group's decisions related to assessment missions, surveys and the development of the mine action portfolio. However, attempts to apply that consultative process more widely to external partners has met with varying degrees of success. Partnership with the Survey Action Centre on the level I survey process is a positive example of such cooperation, as is the strong link with donors through the ad hoc Mine Action Support Group chaired by Norway. The United Nations Mine Action Service has not been as successful with the steering committee mechanism established to strengthen links with non-governmental organizations and private organizations. While there are good working relationships, in particular at the field level, the steering committee has yet to become a formal structure for consultation and coordination at the Headquarters level. Every effort will be made by the Service over the coming months to improve the situation, initially by building on the partnerships established in Kosovo.

B. Department for Disarmament Affairs

38. During the past 12 months, in accordance with the functions of the depositary, the Department for Disarmament Affairs coordinated United Nations Secretariat assistance to the parties at the First Meeting of the States Parties to the Ottawa Convention and adopted its report,[1] to which was annexed the Maputo Declaration.

39. The First Meeting also adopted standardized formats, which had been developed by the Department for Disarmament Affairs in consultation with parties, for annual reporting of transparency measures under article 7 of the Convention. The nine categories of information to be reported upon pertain to national implementation measures; numbers of mines in stockpiles; known or suspected locations of mines; details concerning the mines retained or transferred for purposes authorized by the Convention; status of programmes for conversion of production facilities; status of programmes for the destruction of mines; types and quantities of mines destroyed; technical characteristics of mines produced or possessed that may facilitate their identification and clearance; and measures taken to warn the population concerning areas where mines are known or suspected to have been emplaced. The Department has developed a computerized database to collect, store, retrieve and disseminate those data. As the data will be of direct relevance to mine action, they will be made accessible to all interested parties through the Internet.

40. As noted in resolution 53/26, Amended Protocol II[2] to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[3] contains a number of important provisions for mine-clearance operations, most notably the requirement of detectability. The Department has also been mandated to assist States parties to the Protocol in the convening of their annual conferences. Accordingly, the Department has substantively serviced the Preparatory Meeting for the First Annual Conference (25 and 26 May 1999) and will do so for the Conference itself, to be held from 15 to 17 December 1999.

C. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

41. Over the past year, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat has shared information on humanitarian mine action with relevant United Nations bodies. As was demonstrated by the mine

situation in the Sudan, the Office was able to assist the United Nations Mine Action Service, the United Nations Office for Project Services and UNICEF in finalizing a mine awareness project. With regard to the Sudan, consultations were also held to discuss the feasibility of the project for the northern sector of the country. Most recently, in Kosovo, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs facilitated the participation of the Mine Action Service in the inter-agency needs assessment mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia that visited the province during the air strikes by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs also participates in joint assessment missions led by the United Nations Mine Action Service, most recently in Azerbaijan and Lebanon.

42. On the policy side, the Office has complemented related efforts by other United Nations bodies and has contributed to the production of a document entitled, "United Nations Mine Action and the Use of the Militaries", which focuses on safeguarding the neutrality and impartiality of international humanitarian demining efforts.

43. As coordinator of the consolidated appeal process, the Office continues to work with its partners to solicit timely and adequate funding for mine action activities in countries covered by the appeal. In 1999, over $63 million was requested by various partners for mine action activities, including requests for Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Somalia, the Sudan and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Kosovo). To date, however, only some $10 million has been received.

D. United Nations Development Programme

44. UNDP has an active and growing role in mine action and, through the mine action support project established in its Emergency Response Division, has continued to provide guidance, technical support and assistance to country-level mine action programmes. UNDP actively participates in all established United Nations inter-agency coordination mechanisms and the appointment of a liaison officer to the United Nations Mine Action Service ensures ongoing and effective coordination.

45. UNDP has continued to work with the Mine Action Service and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining on the requirements of an information management system to be adopted in the field. UNDP, in consultation with the Service, is developing an arrangement with the Geneva International Centre for a study on the socio-economic consequences of landmines, with specific reference to the impact of mines/UXO and the benefits of mine action. Of the 20 mine action programmes and initiatives supported by the United Nations, UNDP is now responsible for 14, with new programme components initiated in the past year in Azerbaijan, Thailand and Yemen. UNDP is involved in helping to plan mine action activities in Jordan and Lebanon, following the recent assessment missions to those countries led by the Mine Action Centre.

46. A second partnership, launched in March 1999 with the United Nations Association of the United States and known as "Adopt-a-Minefield", establishes a funding mechanism that allows civil society organizations and private individuals to contribute to mine action activities. The project is being implemented by the United Nations Office for Project Services and, by June 1999, 16 minefields in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Croatia and Mozambique had been "adopted".

47. In 1998-1999, overall funding pledged and received for national mine action programmes involving UNDP exceeded $45 million. UNDP seed funds of over $8 million succeeded in raising donor support through cost-sharing arrangements, contributions to trust funds, and through bilateral funding arrangements. Despite this considerable resource mobilization effort, however, a shortfall of more than $30 million remains against projected needs. Bridge-financing for ongoing activities in Angola and Bosnia and Herzegovina was provided by the United Nations Mine Action Service through the Voluntary Trust Fund.

E. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

48. With the adoption of the Ottawa Convention in September 1997, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has been revising its policy and operational guidelines to improve the effectiveness of ongoing mine action programmes as they apply to refugees and returnees. Initiatives such as the Action for the Rights of Children, which UNHCR has embarked upon, together with UNICEF and the Save the Children Alliance, represent just such a step towards the protection of victims. UNHCR continues to include mine action components in its country programmes, addressing such issues as mine awareness, training, detection, demarking and actual demining.

49. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, UNHCR has continued to use six agency-sponsored independent demining teams, which are carrying out clearance operations to effect the

return of minorities. UNHCR intends to phase out support by the end of 1999 and to transfer all demining capabilities and assets to a national body and selected non-governmental organizations. A total of $2.6 million was allocated for mine action by UNHCR in 1998 and $2.5 million in 1999. By the end of 1998, a total of 413,206 square metres had been manually searched and declared free from mines and other unexploded ordnance.

50. Following national elections in Cambodia in July 1998, UNHCR entered directly into agreement with the Cambodia Mine Action Centre and a non-governmental organization, the HALO Trust. Mine action activities include surveying, land verification and demarcation, and clearance activities in priority resettlement areas. Site clearance for the UNHCR quick impact projects and information campaigns at sites located in high-risk locations are also being undertaken. A budget of $0.7 million has been allocated for mine action activities essential to the sustainable reintegration of returnees and the "anchoring" of displaced rural populations in Cambodia.

51. In line with the United Nations settlement plan for Western Sahara approved by the Security Council, UNHCR has been given the responsibility of implementing the voluntary repatriation to Western Sahara of some 120,000 Saharawi refugees and their families currently living in Algeria and northern Mauritania. As regards north east Africa, UNHCR has signed an agreement with Handicap International for the provision of a mine risk education programme for the benefit of Somali refugees in the camps of eastern Ethiopia.

52. Most recently, in accordance with the Secretary-General's report of 12 July 1999 on the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) (S/1999/779), UNHCR has been given the task of leading the humanitarian mine action component of the Kosovo response, as managed by the United Nations Mine Action Service and the United Nations Office for Project Services.

F. United Nations Children's Fund

53. As the United Nations focal point for mine awareness education, UNICEF has taken an active role at numerous international forums and has participated in the United Nations Mine Action Service inter-agency mine action assessment missions. UNICEF programmes on mine awareness and victim assistance are ongoing in Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Croatia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Mozambique, while new programmes have been initiated in Albania, Guatemala, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Nicaragua, and south Sudan.

54. In response to the crisis in the southern Balkans, UNICEF continues to implement, in cooperation with other United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations, mine awareness education activities as part of regional mine action approach. In cooperation with the UNMIK Mine Action Coordination Centre in Pristina, a comprehensive mine awareness education strategy was developed with the goal of providing information on the mine UXO threat and integrating mine awareness education with other mine action and humanitarian activities. As part of the overall strategy, a public information campaign was undertaken, during which some one million posters and leaflets were distributed and mine/UXO awareness messages were disseminated through international and local media. UNICEF developed a teacher's guide and a training kit, and has undertaken a "training of trainers" programme within refugee camps together with non-governmental organizations.

55. In cooperation with other implementing partners, mine awareness curricula and materials are being developed for high-risk populations living in Albania and Kosovo, and refugees returning from third countries. Preparations are also under way to integrate mine awareness education into the formal education system and with the public health sector.

G. United Nations Office for Project Services

56. United Nations policy on mine action identifies the United Nations Office for Project Services as a United Nations system provider of services related to integrated mine action and capacity-building. The Office executes mine action programmes on behalf of selected United Nations agencies, including the United Nations Mine Action Service and UNDP, and works closely with both United Nations bodies at Headquarters to ensure the effective design of programmes and their timely delivery.

57. In response to a growing need for such operational support, the Office established a Mine Action Unit in early 1998. Staffing of the Unit is now complete and is responsible for the management of all the Office's activities in this highly technical field. The Mine Action Unit is currently expanding its database of personnel and suppliers of equipment and services to ensure the widest possible network of expertise and experience available.

58. In addition to contracting non-governmental organizations and commercial suppliers, the United Nations Office for Project Services has developed the necessary legal

agreements to work with Governments and other organizations, providing military and civilian personnel, equipment and services as in-kind contributions to mine action programmes. The capacity of the Office capacity to act as a single contracting source is cost-effective and provides a standardized approach that can be applied to enhance mine action programmes worldwide. The Office is currently executing or providing services to 14 major mine action programmes. More recently, it was designated the executing agency for the Mine Action Coordination Centre in Kosovo.

H. World Food Programme

59. The World Food Programme (WFP) is involved in mine action within the context of relief and recovery programmes. In Cambodia, WFP is working with non-governmental organizations and selected government agencies on projects to maintain rural infrastructure and resettle displaced persons. In Angola, the destruction of roads and bridges and logistical problems regarding delivery of food aid have long been impeding WFP activities and, as a result, a special programme was conceived for secondary road rehabilitation and associated demining. The immediate objective of the project was to ensure access to those in need of humanitarian assistance and to facilitate agricultural production by providing access to markets. Because of renewed fighting in 1999, however, WFP operations in Angola have been temporarily suspended. In addition, funds requested by WFP for mine action in the October 1998 consolidated appeal have not yet materialized. WFP is working on emergency road repairs in southern Sudan in an effort to open up land corridors and gain unrestricted road access.

I. World Health Organization

60. In order to support mine-affected countries in the development of sustainable and integrated mine victim assistance programmes, the World Health Organization (WHO) has started a consultation process with the respective ministries of health of all affected States. Following up on recommendations made in Kampala in September 1998 at the first WHO Interregional Workshop on a Concerted Public Health Response to Anti-Personnel Mines, activities were implemented to achieve the objectives outlined in the WHO plan of action.

61. The first objective of the plan was to strengthen the capacity of national ministries of health in mine-affected States to better assess the health consequences of landmines. WHO convened a scientific meeting to develop standardized, internationally accepted data collection tools and methods. Two such tools were developed in order to record information on the incidence of fatal and non-fatal landmine injuries and the circumstances in which they occur. Pilot testing of those instruments is currently under way in Azerbaijan. In March 1999, WHO convened the first Workshop on Pre-Hospital Management of Mine Injuries in cooperation with the Norwegian Trauma Care Foundation.

62. WHO, as a member of the Inter-Agency Coordinating Group on Mine Action, has participated in most of the United Nations Mine Action Service assessment missions over the past year. WHO also helped to initiate the post-Maputo inter-sessional process. Related to this, close links are also being established with WHO regional offices, in particular in Africa and the Americas, following up the recent alliance between the Pan American Health Organization, Canada and Mexico.

J. World Bank

63. During period under review, the World Bank has been involved, to varying degrees, in mine action activities in five countries. In Croatia from 1998 to 1999 the World Bank financed two infrastructure repair projects, one for emergency transport in Croatia and one project focusing on Eastern Slavonia. In both projects, the Bank enjoys a close working relationship with the Mine Action Centre in Zagreb.

64. The World Bank's emergency landmine clearance project in Bosnia and Herzegovina closed in mid-1999. This was the first demining project designed by the Bank and contributed to the establishment of a local administration tasked with managing mine clearing issues. The Bank also contributed to other organizations' efforts in Bosnia and Herzegovina by administering a Canadian grant, which was used to fund mine awareness lectures for approximately 7,000 people across the country.

65. In Cambodia, the World Bank in 1999 financed a project that is intended to rehabilitate key roads and includes, in consultation with the Mine Action Centre there, a mine survey component.

66. A social assessment and stakeholder consultation process in Azerbaijan highlighted the fact that concerns regarding landmines were adversely affecting efforts to resettle Azeris internally displaced by the Nagorny-

Karabakh conflict. Preparations for a demining and mine awareness institutional capacity were begun by the Bank and in late 1997 it was agreed that UNDP should take the lead in that area. The first phase of the Azerbaijan Resettlement and Reconstruction Agency programme of $54 million includes $3 million for demining, of which $500,000 would be funded from the $20 million International Development Association credit for a pilot reconstruction project approved by the Association's Board in June 1998.

67. The World Bank is supporting a series of analytical/sector studies in Afghanistan as part of its watching brief activities. In 1999, through its post-conflict fund grant facility, the Bank is also providing financing to the Afghan Mine Action Centre so that it may prepare a thorough socio-economic cost-benefit analysis of demining activities.

IV. Intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

68. The role of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations has been indispensable to the work of mine action. Some of those organizations, such as ICRC, have been active participants in humanitarian mine action efforts since the beginning, while other relatively new actors, such as the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, are only recently making their technical expertise available.

A. Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining

69. The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining was formally established on 28 April 1998 by the Government of Switzerland as a non-profit foundation to assist the United Nations in the promotion of mine action cooperation and coordination efforts.

70. On behalf of the United Nations Mine Action Service, the Geneva Centre for Humanitarian Demining, with technical support provided by the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, has continued to manage the development of the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA). Emphasis in 1999 has been to complete the development of the field module of the system. Additional support to the United Nations Mine Action Service in the period under review included the provision of three experts to reinforce the United Nations staff in Kosovo.

71. At the First Meeting of the States Parties to the Ottawa Convention, the Centre was invited by the States parties to provide practical support to the work of five open-ended standing committees of experts on mine action. That support will involve providing the venue, supporting facilities and administration for meetings of the standing committees and other related inter-sessional activities.

B. HALO Trust

72. The period under review saw an expansion of HALO Trust mine clearance programmes, matched by the provision of additional mechanical mine clearance capabilities, which have resulted in major improvements in productivity and cost savings to donors. The Hazardous Areas Life-Support Organization (HALO) has continued its emphasis on local capacity-building and now has approximately 3,000 local staff and 20 international staff working worldwide.

73. HALO is currently undertaking clearance projects in Abkhazia, Afghanistan, north-east Africa, Angola, Cambodia, Mozambique, Nagorny-Karabakh and, most recently, in Kosovo. In June 1999, HALO began a country-wide survey of Kosovo on behalf of the United Nations, in which collected data are to be deposited in the new IMSMA worldwide database. HALO is also developing full-scale manual and mechanical clearance capabilities for Kosovo and aims to have 700 deminers and 15 mechanical units deployed there in the immediate future.

C. Handicap International

74. Handicap International has long had a worldwide presence. In Africa, dog teams have just been added to the project in Mozambique and, with a solid base of manual skills and experience to call upon, the production of cleared land there is expected to increase by a factor of at least four. Throughout 1998, progress in Angola was slow owing to the resumption of hostilities. In Ethiopia, a mine awareness programme covering all significant Somali refugee camps was completed in December 1998, while in Chad an assessment mission was carried out, leading to the development of a level 1 survey. Handicap International also conducted an assessment mission to the Casamance region of Senegal in September 1998 and a programme is scheduled to be implemented in 1999.

75. Handicap International is active in Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand doing UXO impact survey work.

76. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, Handicap International has formed a non-governmental organization that has been formally registered under Bosnian law and has been carrying out mine clearance, survey and explosive ordnance disposal work since October 1997. Most recently in Kosovo, the United Nations Mine Action Coordination Centre named Handicap International the lead demining agency for the Djakova district and, based on experience in Bosnia and Herzegovina, is implementing a flexible capacity that is self-contained and has been designed as a medium- to long-term strategy.

D. International Campaign to Ban Landmines

77. The International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) was launched in 1992 and presently comprises over 1,400 organizations in 90 countries worldwide. During the First Meeting of States Parties to the Ottawa Convention in May, ICBL released its "Landmine Monitor Report 1999: Toward a Mine-Free World". The 1,100-page report was presented to Governments during the opening plenary of the diplomatic conference. The unique reporting system contains information on every country in the world with respect to mine use, production, trade, stockpiling, humanitarian demining and mine survivor assistance. Also at the First Meeting of States Parties, the ICBL Victim Assistance Working Group launched Guidelines for the Care and Rehabilitation of Survivors and called on Governments to commit $3 billion over the next 10 years to support victim assistance and socio-economic reintegration programmes.

78. Following the First Meeting of States Parties, the general meeting of ICBL was held in Maputo, where members met to take major decisions on the strategic direction and activities of ICBL over the next five years, up until the first review conference of the Ottawa Convention in 2004. ICBL priorities endorsed at the general meeting include the promotion of increased funding for mine action programmes and for comprehensive victim assistance programmes, and the engagement of non-state actors to commit to a ban. With regard to the universalization of the Convention, it was decided that ICBL should continue its efforts to encourage non-signatories to accede to it.

E. International Committee of the Red Cross

79. ICRC acts to help all victims of war and internal violence, and endeavours to ensure implementation of humanitarian rules restricting armed violence. At the core of ICRC activities are its efforts in mine-affected countries. In 1999, ICRC supported health facilities treating the war-wounded, including mine-injured, in Afghanistan, Angola, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Iraq, Somalia, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Tajikistan, Uganda and Zimbabwe. Support involves direct assistance to first-aid posts, hospitals and surgical facilities, evacuation of injured to and from medical facilities, as well as training nurses, doctors and surgeons in the treatment of mine injuries. In terms of rehabilitation, ICRC is running 25 physical rehabilitation programmes in 13 countries: Afghanistan, Angola, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Georgia, Iraq, Kenya, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan and Uganda.

80. Since 1996, ICRC has also operated mine awareness programmes in Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia. In 1998, mine awareness surveys were also carried out in Afghanistan, Georgia, the Sudan and Uganda. New mine awareness programmes were launched in Georgia and in the region of Nagorny-Karabakh in early 1999 and will continue throughout the year. In Kosovo, ICRC has just recently set up a data collection system in conjunction with the Mother Teresa Society.

F. Norwegian People's Aid

81. Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) is active worldwide and is one of the major non-governmental organizations involved in mine clearing activities. In Angola, NPA has upgraded its capabilities to include mechanical, manual, canine and explosive vapour detection techniques, combining them with a general level 1 survey that is almost completed. In addition, NPA has been working closely with UNDP and the national coordinating body to transfer competence and effect the nationalization of programme positions. Since mid-1998, all manual demining teams have been fully nationalized and expatriate management staff are being phased out. The mine action programme in Mozambique is the first of its kind where NPA has fully nationalized the management. The programme consists of 500 employees and is active in three provinces in central Mozambique. Work in Western Sahara, however, has been limited to implementing a mine awareness training and outreach programme for the refugees there. An assessment

has also been made of a mine survey in the territory, but has not been followed up with any action.

82. Other countries with an active NPA presence include Cambodia, northern Iraq and the Lao People's Democratic Republic. During the period from July 1998 to July 1999, 500 mines were destroyed in Iraq and 110,000 sq m of land cleared; an additional 30,000 pieces of UXO on 4 million sq m of land were also cleared. NPA started mine clearance work in Cambodia in 1992 and over the last 12 months has provided five international technical advisers to the Mine Action Centre there. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, NPA has been running a capacity-building programme since 1997, with seven expatriate advisers providing advisory support to the national organization, UXO LAO. The priority there is to have local staff fully trained within three years and, to that end, NPA is cooperating closely with UNDP and UNICEF.

83. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the NPA mine action programme grew considerably over the reporting period. The number of personnel involved doubled, from 100 to 200. Included is a demining platoon based in Pale, which was taken over from UNHCR in May 1999. Some 230,000 sq m have been cleared during the period under review.

84. In Kosovo, NPA began mine clearance activities with a mine clearance team consisting of 32 persons from Bosnia and Herzegovina and, under the aegis of the Mine Action Coordination Centre in Pristina, has assisted in the training of local deminers. Ultimately, three demining teams of 100 locals each will be formed.

G. Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation

85. In its role as managing body for the Survey Action Centre and as a leading member of the Survey Working Group, the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation has been instrumental in the implementation of the global landmine survey programme.

86. In the last 12-month period, the Survey Action Centre and the United Nations Mine Action Service have worked closely together to develop survey instruments and methodologies. Executed to a common international standard and certified by the Service, the survey will allow donors to apportion funds to places of greatest human need, permit national authorities to develop national plans focusing on regions and areas of greatest impact and give project implementers baseline impact data for mine action programmes.

87. Within the next two years, it is expected that this initiative will produce high-quality survey data on the socio-economic impact of landmines. The survey, conducted by visiting all the mine-affected communities within a country, will provide the foundation for a range of subsequent mine action activities. Indeed, the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining has already incorporated the materials as one of the first elements in the IMSMA field module and a multitude of donors are making funds available to support the initiative.

88. Two surveys have already commenced and three more are in the final planning stages. With funding from the Government of Canada, the Canadian International Demining Centre has begun a level 1 socio-economic impact survey in Mozambique, while the Survey Action Centre has been contracted to carry out the first level 1 socio-economic impact survey in Yemen. The contract was signed in July 1999 and the Mine Clearance Planning Agency of Afghanistan was subcontracted by the Survey Action Centre to execute the survey.

89. The United Nations Mine Action Service, the Survey Action Centre and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining have worked together to produce a field module for a level 1 socio-economic impact survey. The module is fully integrated into the IMSMA.

90. In August 1999 a five-day level 1 socio-economic impact survey symposium was held under the auspices of the Survey Action Centre in Washington, D.C. The training focused on developing socio-economic impact survey capabilities that selected non-governmental organizations are likely to implement as subcontractors to the Centre. In that regard, the Centre has also invited leading private mine action consultants to attend the symposium and pre-qualify to lead surveys conducted directly by it.

V. Country programmes

91. The primary responsibility for initiating action against the presence of landmines lies with the Government of the affected State. The State is expected to assume the obligation of overall coordination and management of any national mine action programme. When requested, and subject to available resources, the United Nations system has assisted landmine and UXO-affected countries in creating sustainable national capacities in the preparation and implementation of any indigenous programme. Under the overall coordination of the United Nations Mine Action Service, the United Nations will continue to honour such requests.

A. Afghanistan

92. Afghanistan remains one of the most seriously landmine-afflicted countries in the world. In May 1999, it was estimated that 700 sq km of the country remained mined, about half of which has a significant impact on the lives of the Afghan population. Under the aegis of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance to Afghanistan, the mine action programme for Afghanistan has continued to maintain productive activities in the face of recurring operational and political challenges. Despite the suspension of United Nations activities in southern Afghanistan during April and June 1998 and then in Kabul during July and August, the mine action programme successfully achieved its annual goals.

93. In 1998, over 37 sq km of mined area and 47 sq km of former battle area were surveyed and marked (level 2 survey), while 33.5 sq km of mined territory and 39.1 sq km of former battle area was cleared. Training courses for existing teams and new demining personnel have also been implemented, resulting in a dramatic reduction in the number of accidents, from 62 in 1997 to 29 in 1998. In addition, some 800,000 Afghans were provided with mine awareness training through the use of mobile teams, community-based training and mass media broadcasts. From January to May 1999, a total of 13.7 sq km of mined area and 17.7 sq km of former battle area was surveyed and marked. More survey teams have since been employed and an additional 215 sq km of mined area and 197 sq km of former battle area has been surveyed. During the same period, 14.4 sq km of mined area and 16.9 sq km of former battle area was cleared. The programme's overall clearance cost remained below $0.60 per sq m.

94. In 1998, the mine action programme for Afghanistan received a total contribution of $19 million against a total requirement of $23.5 million. Some $4.8 million was brought forward from funding in 1997 and $3.1 million was received in the form of in-kind contributions. Total programme requirements for 1999 is $25.6 million, of which $11.1 million has already been received as pledges and contributions and $3.89 million has been carried over from 1998. There remains a $10.6 million shortfall for projected 1999 activities.

B. Angola

95. Angola is littered with an estimated 6-8 million landmines, resulting in one of the highest per capita ratios of landmine victims in the world. This grim situation has recently been compounded by the resumption of hostilities between the Government of Angola and guerrilla groups, and there has been a correspondingly negative impact on the progress of the mine action programme there.

96. Current political and operational constraints notwithstanding, the National Institute for the Removal of Obstacles and Explosive Ordnance has developed some significant capacities through the recent establishment of an Operations Division, a Database Division and a National Training Centre, providing services and facilities to all mine action operators active in Angola. A small support staff is currently being trained, as have over 300 deminers (200 of whom are still deployed in five provinces and are conducting limited UXO clearance and mine awareness education activities).

97. As fighting resumed in December 1998, however, the Institute found itself unable to continue its operations in the seven provinces where it had previously been working. International advisers working with the Institute's provincial offices were ultimately pulled out and its offices were closed down. Currently, limited mine clearance and UXO removal activities are conducted by non-governmental organizations, mainly in the south of the country and in certain coastal provinces. From July 1998 to July 1999, approximately 2,800,000 sq m were cleared.

98. Political and operational constrains notwithstanding, it was decided to maintain a programme that would cover the emergency needs of humanitarian projects in Angola. In that context, it is essential to stress the importance of protecting the programme in the knowledge that, once peace returns to Angola, full-scale mine action programming will be required.

C. Azerbaijan

99. The presence of landmines continues to hamper reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts in Azerbaijan more than four years after the cessation of hostilities that occurred during the conflict over Nagorny-Karabakh. Following up on requests made by the Government of Azerbaijan, UNDP was made responsible for supporting the development of a national mine action programme. To that end, a preparatory assistance project to assess the magnitude of the crisis, funded jointly by UNDP and the Government of Norway, was launched and executed by the United Nations Office for Project Services in 1998. An international consultant was also hired to help plan, coordinate and supervise a level 1 survey being undertaken.

100. Other United Nations agencies have been doing related work in Azerbaijan. An inter-agency mission consisting of representatives from the United Nations Mine Action Service, UNDP, WHO, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and UNICEF was conducted in July 1998, making specific recommendations with regard to the further development of a national mine action plan. Non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations such as ICRC have also been active.

101. In April 1999, UNDP and the State Commission on Reconstruction and Rehabilitation agreed on a project document establishing the Azeri National Agency for Mine Action. Acting as the government implementing body for the project, the Agency will function as the focal point for the planning, coordination, implementation and management of all mine- and UXO-related activities in Azerbaijan.

102. Encompassing the myriad of UNDP, World Bank, European Union and UNHCR reconstruction and rehabilitation projects under way in Azerbaijan, approximately 262 sq km of high-priority land have been successfully surveyed. A total of 3.2 sq km of suspected contaminated areas were marked in the Fizuli region and an additional 17 sites were surveyed in the Agdam region. The results of those surveys will ultimately form the basis for the establishment of a national mine database. Limited resources preclude full-scale demining operations at the present time.

D. Bosnia and Herzegovina

103. Since the war ended in December 1995, mines and unexploded ordnance in Bosnia and Herzegovina have killed at least 286 people and seriously injured 664. Twenty deminers have also been killed and 41 seriously injured during post-war civilian and military mine clearance work.

104. Bosnian government authorities accepted the transfer of responsibility for mine action from the United Nations Mine Action Service on 1 July 1998. Since that time, UNDP has conducted a programme aimed at assisting the authorities in assuming responsibility for a national mine action plan and channelling financial resources made available by donors. The programme has been executed through the Bosnia and Herzegovina Commission for Demining and, though in reduced form, assistance from that body is expected to continue. Mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina has developed into a diverse and multi-faceted effort involving national and international commercial interests, non-governmental organizations, military bodies and institutional resources. The three mine action centres play a central role in national demining efforts. The Centres are responsible for, among other things, the maintenance of a national mine database, the establishment and maintenance of safety, training and quality assurance standards, organizing mine awareness activities and conducting field surveys.

105. International private companies are also active in Bosnia and Herzegovina, working in a variety of joint venture and subcontractual arrangements. Those companies have been successful in their efforts so far: they have led the way in implementing an effective integrated approach, using combinations of manual demining, explosive-detecting dog teams and mechanical ground preparation. The United States Government has continued to fund commercial demining projects in that manner and, with some assistance from the mine action centres, was largely responsible for the retraining of entity army personnel to international standards for humanitarian demining. Similarly, the personnel trained and equipped in 1997-1998 by the European Union have now been incorporated into a sustainable civil protection, explosive ordnance disposal and house-clearing capability. The performance of the retrained military personnel to date suggests that such a workforce will evolve into a valuable indigenous demining asset.

106. Three non-governmental organizations are active in Bosnia and Herzegovina. HELP Germany undertakes mine clearance activities principally in direct support of European Union reconstruction programmes, while NPA has had a very significant impact in the canton of Sarajevo. Handicap International established a local non-governmental organization in the canton of Una Sana in 1997-1998 and three other national non-governmental organizations are now being organized, one in Republika Srpska and two in the Federation.

107. UNICEF and ICRC, working through local authorities and schools, have continued mine awareness and risk reduction programmes that have had a significant impact in reducing the mine casualty rate. Those efforts are being expanded through UNDP's own programme, funded by the United Nations Foundation.

E. Cambodia

108. During the period under review and in the context of the third phase of United Nations support to demining in Cambodia, there have been significant changes at the Cambodian Mine Action Centre. A quality assurance team trained in internal audit procedures and ISO 9000 principles was established in December 1998. Audits were conducted in selected branches and follow-up actions taken to address

the problems identified. In April 1999, UNDP commissioned a special audit of the funds provided to the Centre by the Government in response to allegations of financial mismanagement. The audit was later broadened to cover all funding to the Centre and a review of the operational priority-setting procedures. Those reviews are ongoing at the time of writing. However, a number of senior national staff changes and new financial procedures have already been introduced.

109. National database capabilities at the Cambodian Mine Action Centre have recently been augmented by the ability to scan and geo-reference map sheets and aerial photos. This provides a very useful tool for determining accurate positions of minefields in relation to selected physical features. Explosive ordnance destruction data and mine/UXO awareness activities are now on the database and the United States Government has since provided bombing data from 1970-1973.

110. During the period from August 1998 to March 1999, marking teams marked 154,869 m of minefield perimeters and cleared 229,785 sq m of pathways. The teams also found and destroyed 1,018 anti-personnel mines, 23 anti-tank mines and 246 pieces of UXO. There are 67 standard and 3 contract (development) demining platoons available, with a total of 2,578 deminers deployed in the field. The explosive ordnance disposal function has been increased from 20 to 25 teams, with an enhanced management and tasking system implemented with demining units. From August 1998 to June 1999, 12 mine/UXO awareness teams reached an estimated 374,000 people through formal presentations, home and field visits. Mine Awareness Day activities on 24 February were expanded to more locations and a consultant was hired to assist the mine/UXO awareness branch in improving mine awareness learning aids. A knowledge/attitudes/practices survey has also been prepared to measure the effectiveness of mine awareness activities and, in conjunction with additional mass media campaigns, will provide results near the end of 1999. Eight level 1 survey teams were deployed to Kampot in mid-July 1999. The survey capability is expected to expand to 64 detachments, with additional funds from the Canadian International Development Agency. The Cambodian Mine Action Centre now has 20 trained mine-detection dogs and handlers. It is expected that the dog teams will be ready for deployment sometime during the fourth quarter of 1999.

111. Trials of two Finnish RA-140 flails have determined that they can be used to prepare ground for manual demining. This significantly improves existing capabilities, as up to 70 per cent of Cambodian deminers' time is spent checking for trip wires and cutting back vegetation. The flails were deployed operationally for the first time in Kampot in October 1998 and have since been deployed in Banteay Meanchey, one of Cambodia's most heavily mined provinces.

112. Funding for the regulatory authority, whose functions include registration of demining organizations, certification of individuals, licensing of sites and monitoring compliance with landmine legislation and clearance standards has been approved by the European Community for the purchase of office equipment and running costs for the next six months. A three-year plan is being prepared to ensure that additional funds can be obtained to sustain the regulatory authority.

F. Chad

113. The mine action programme currently in place in Chad, supported by UNDP, consists of a national mine action centre based in N'Djamena, a regional mine action centre in Faya Largeau and a mine awareness cell in Bardai. The United Nations Office for Project Services has contracted five staff, including one United Nations Volunteer, as technical advisers.

114. A national demining school has been established in N'Djamena, where some 20 instructors, 40 administrative staff and 80 deminers have been trained. Local mine awareness campaigns have been conducted in selected areas of the country and there has been some collaboration with UNICEF on the development of a comprehensive strategy dealing with mine awareness and victim assistance issues. Support and funding has been secured for a level 1 survey and an advance planning mission has been conducted. A mine database and a mine action Web site are also being developed, with assistance from the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, the University of Toronto and UNDP, respectively. Resources for the Chad mine action programme have been mobilised from several countries, including Canada, Germany, Italy and Japan. Discussions with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya about additional financial support are under way.

G. Croatia

115. With the establishment of a mine action centre by the Government of Croatia in February 1998, the United Nations Mine Action Centre in Croatia spent the period from July to December 1998 assisting in the staffing and development of the national body. On 1 January 1999, the Croatian Mine Action Centre became operational and the United Nations

Mine Action Centre accordingly changed its name to better reflect its new mandate: the United Nations Mine Action Assistance Programme in Croatia. In addition to the overall programme office and a legal and finance department, relevant departments of the Centre are responsible for maintaining the mine information database, level 2 surveys, projects and planning, and quality assurance issues. There are 59 Croatian government staff, in addition to 20 employees of the United Nations Mine Action Assistance Programme working at the Centre.

116. The Programme has been instrumental in obtaining additional mine clearance machinery and mine-detection dogs for use in Croatia. In that context and with the support of the United Nations Office for Project Services, technical advisers of the Programme have not only acted as advisers for quality assurance and survey tasks, but have also been executing activities with available equipment. Mine clearance organizations have been encouraged to start work in Croatia, often in joint ventures with newly established local companies, which, in turn, has raised the overall standard of the work carried out. Since July 1998, 17 million sq m have been successfully cleared of mines. In conjunction with the Croatian Mine Action Centre, donor-funded projects have been identified and prepared by Programme advisers and direct monitoring and reporting to the donor has been initiated. Other projects that have been financed recently include the development of a sustainable data collection programme for mine incidents, the initiation of several mine awareness programmes and the formation of a mine victims association in Croatia. The European Union funded a one-year Western European Union demining assistance mission to Croatia from May 1999. Nine technical experts are working in conjunction with the Programme to strengthen support to the Croatian Mine Action Centre, and also provide a conduit to European Union countries for additional programme assistance. Although still under the management of the United Nations Mine Action Service, discussions are under way to hand this fully developed programme to UNDP.

H. Iraq

117. The mine action programme in Iraq has made marked progress over the past year. In the space of 18 months' operations the project has been able to begin clearance operations, utilizing both manual and dog-supported activities; to initiate the development of a high-quality mapping and database system; to commence level 1, 2 and 3 survey processes; and to support the indigenous creation of one survey and 10 clearance teams.

118. With support provided through the United Nations Office for Project Services, productivity has improved threefold in the last six months, with in excess of 1 million sq m cleared. The level 1 survey will be finished by the end of this year, and the level 2 survey has technically surveyed and reduced in excess of 1 million sq m of minefields. To date, there have not been any mine clearance accidents in the programme's 14 months of field operations. Mine victim support includes three prosthetic centres that have treated, measured and fitted 3,965 patients and provided 941 prostheses for patients. A process of cross-pollination of experience between other projects and programmes has been initiated through the short-term recruitment of a number of assistant supervisors. The mine action programme is one of the larger employers in the region, with over 1,000 national staff. Increased involvement by Iraqi authorities at all levels is being sought: discussions with two local authorities in the northern governorates of Iraq with regard to setting up a regional demining office are being held and the development of a demining commission for Iraq is being advocated.

119. Operational costs for the programme have been reduced from approximately $19 per sq m in the initial phases to $3 per sq m. The cost is expected to decrease even further when productivity improves with the introduction of more dogs and mechanical clearance devices.

120. The uncertain security situation in-country complicates planning and implementation efforts. Other constraints to the project reflect an inability to plan for the long-term, which, in turn, results from the six-monthly phased process of funding. As an interim measure, the programme has developed a corporate strategy spanning over the next two years, which focuses on the development of sustainable indigenous mine action capacities.

I. Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

121. Based on Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, UNMIK, through the United Nations Mine Action Service and the United Nations Office for Project Services, is actively engaged in developing an integrated mine action programme for Kosovo. A priority of the programme has been the establishment in Pristina of the Mine Action Coordination Centre to act as landmine/UXO focal point. The Mine Action Coordination Centre is now fully operational and is responsible, among other things, for the planning and coordination of mine/UXO-related activities, information management, development of

technical and safety standards, quality assurance and resource mobilization.

122. From June to 31 August 1999, some 232 persons have been injured or killed by landmines and UXO in Kosovo, a casualty rate much higher than previously reported and comparable to what has been experienced in similar emergency situations in Afghanistan and Cambodia, for example.

123. Working closely with other mine action partners, the Mine Action Coordination Centre has begun developing a mine action plan for Kosovo, divided into three phases. Activities undertaken in the preliminary phase include rapid assessment of the mine/UXO threat and making mine awareness training available to refugees and internally displaced persons. Verification and survey work will be undertaken in the second emergency phase, along with explosive ordnance disposal tasks, battle area and urban UXO/mine clearance and the development of victim assistance capabilities. The final consolidation phase will focus on those mine action activities that can continue through the winter period and beyond. Of particular importance in the final phase will be the establishment of institutional arrangements upon which the medium- and long-term requirements for mine action can be developed.

124. As part of the UNMIK mine action programme, an operational plan for emergency phase mine/UXO awareness education was released and a strategy paper prepared, referring to the implementation modalities of the operational plan. UNICEF, ICRC, the Mines Advisory Group and CARE International and other non-governmental organizations are leading implementing partners in mine awareness education in Kosovo. With the support of the Mine Action Coordination Centre and ICRC, WHO has established a comprehensive mine injury surveillance system with the aim of collecting data on mine/UXO deaths and injuries in Kosovo. As part of this effort, Handicap International, in cooperation with WHO and local hospitals, has established an ortho-prosthetic centre in Pristina for the treatment of mine victims.

125. With regard to mine survey, marking and clearance activities, a number of non-governmental organizations and commercial companies are very active, including NPA, the Mines Advisory Group, Handicap International, the HALO Trust, HELP, Ronco, Bactec and Mine-Tech. For the most part, such efforts are being funded by donor Governments and United Nations agencies; however, in many instances funding is not guaranteed to cover the complete cost of emergency phase activities. Additional funding must be secured to ensure the continuity of operations in the field. Through the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action, a total of $5,252,930.39 has either been pledged or expended on the mine action programme.

126. In a process being managed by the Mine Action Coordination Centre, demobilized combatants are being targeted as potential local deminers. It is assumed that locally trained deminers will be required to meet needs in the medium to long term and, as such, a national capacity in Kosovo is necessary. Several non-governmental organizations and commercial companies such as Danish Church Aid and Bactec have already received funding to pursue this training initiative.

J. Lao People's Democratic Republic

127. The national unexploded ordnance programme of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (UXO LAO) continues to expand its mine and UXO activities. It is now fully operational in 9 of the 15 UXO-contaminated provinces and has a national staff of 880 supported by 32 international advisers. In addition, the UXO LAO programme has recently received details of United States bombing data records that have proved to be a valuable planning tool. More information on United States bomber strikes, herbicides used and compiled ground-battle databases are anticipated in the upcoming months.

128. UXO LAO also has a central training school supported by a United States military aid package, which will complete the transfer of instruction responsibilities to Lao staff by September 1999. In the provinces, training and advice is provided by a number of implementing partner agencies and non-governmental organizations, including the Mines Advisory Group, Handicap International, NPA, Gerbera GmbH, a Belgian explosive ordnance disposal detachment and World Vision Australia. UXO LAO operations are conducted to meet community needs in a variety of ways. During the reporting period, demining teams cleared 3,860,000 sq m of priority land and destroyed 77,000 items of UXO and landmines. Unfortunately, demining casualties in the first months of 1999 are up compared with those incurred during the same period in 1998. This increase reflects, among other things, improved reporting mechanisms and growing pressure for access to new land. With regard to community awareness activities, some 548 villages were visited, reaching an estimated audience of 150,000 persons.

129. The annual running costs of UXO LAO are approximately $15 million. The overall goal of UXO LAO remains the development of a sustainable national mine

clearance capability; however, the status of the programme remains uncertain owing to shortfalls in donor support.

K. Mozambique

130. Since July 1998, UNDP has supported the Government of Mozambique's efforts to restructure its national mine clearance commission in order to improve its capacity to coordinate mine action. Through the United Nations Office for Project Services, technical and legal advisers have been seconded to ensure that legal aspects are accommodated, as well as to ensure that international best practices in mine action are recognized. UNDP has been reviewing commercial mine clearance contracts in close cooperation with the mine clearance commission, ensuring transparent selection processes and the cost-efficient execution of time-critical tasks. In November 1998, the draft for the new mine clearance commission was presented to operators, donors and United Nations agencies; seven months later, a new institutional model was passed into law.

131. UNDP has also been coordinating financial and technical assistance to the nationally executed accelerated demining programme, which is the principal mine clearing operator in southern Mozambique. The accelerated demining programme employs some 500 people, almost all of whom are Mozambicans, and routinely uses a combination of manual, canine and mechanical techniques adapted to local conditions. The accelerated demining programme has an annual budget of approximately $4 million.

132. UNICEF is the lead agency for mine awareness activities and mine victim assistance. In cooperation with selected non-governmental organizations, UNICEF has been actively promoting mine-awareness among populations in severely affected areas, reducing casualty rates from 50 incidents per month to a current average of 10. UNICEF is also cooperating with selected non-governmental organizations in training local staff and purchasing equipment and machinery used for the local manufacture and adaptation of prostheses.

L. Nicaragua

133. Nicaragua is the most mine-affected country in Central America, where it is estimated that there are more than 70,000 landmines. Recognizing the implications of that crisis, Nicaragua developed a national capacity in 1990. Since 1996, the national mine action programme has enjoyed the support of a variety of organizations, including the Organization of American States and the Inter-American Defence Board, and has made significant progress in the fields of mine clearance, mine marking, and risk prevention.

134. Hurricane Mitch and the resultant floods that devastated the country in late 1998 exacerbated Nicaragua's landmine problem by compromising previously mine-free agricultural areas with mines that were disturbed and/or washed out in the extreme weather conditions. Additionally, reconstruction work urgently needed for the re-establishment of normal socio-economic activity in affected regions could not be initiated without extensive and expensive prior mine-clearance operations.

135. Responding to a request for assistance expressed by the President of Nicaragua, the United Nations Mine Action Service assessed the situation in Nicaragua in November 1998 and proposed the implementation of a short-term mine clearance assistance project. The aim of the project was to increase the national detection and clearance capacity in order to guarantee that reconstruction sites around destroyed bridges were cleared of mines.

136. From May until the end of July 1999, the United Nations Mine Action Service project resulted in more than 527,000 sq m in the surroundings of four destroyed bridges, on the northern part of the main road leading north from Managua to Honduras, to be declared free from landmines.

M. Somalia

137. During the first half of 1999, mine action activities in Somalia were concentrated in the north-west part of the country, which is estimated to have the highest density of minefields. The Somali region of Burao has been recognized as a priority area to be cleared, given its central location and strong trade links with the rest of the country. Approximately 184,000 sq m of land will be cleared to allow access to this territory, while over 100,000 displaced persons are waiting in Yerowe, 20 kilometres south of Burao, to return to their homes. These clearance activities are expected to last through the final quarter of 1999. It is difficult to determine the exact extent of the landmine crisis in north-west Somalia, as the level 1 survey process has not been completed.

138. An initial team comprising a project manager, an operations manager and a medical professional began the recruitment and training of 64 deminers in Burao. Because of the deteriorating security situation, however, the first team was pulled out in June 1999 and only re-assigned in mid-July.

139. Several non-governmental organizations are active in Somalia. The Danish Demining Group, funded by the Government of Denmark, has been operational since January 1999 and is due to conduct mine clearance activities in the Galbreed region. HALO Trust, supported by the Vietnam Veterans Association and the United States State Department, will commence operations in Awdal region in August 1999, where land will be cleared for the resettlement of internally displaced persons and refugees from Ethiopia. With German funding, the Sankt Barbara Foundation is planning a prospecting mission and will be undertaking small-scale activities supporting mine awareness and local capacity initiatives. CARE is doing work with mine awareness issues. Improved coordination and institutional support would benefit the myriad demining organizations involved in north-west Somalia. The implementation of centralized control over data collection and management activities would ease the ultimate transfer of those responsibilities to local authorities.

N. Sri Lanka

140. In response to a request made by the Government of Sri Lanka, UNDP has been assisting national efforts to address the issue of landmine and UXO contamination in the Jaffna peninsula, which continues to threaten resettlement efforts. In that context, the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Authority of the North will be the national office responsible for the coordination of mine action activities in the region, while the United Nations Office for Project Services remains the executing agency for UNDP.

141. Comprehensive mine action activities were designed under the framework of a pilot project, the Jaffna rehabilitation and resettlement programme. The mine action component of the programme has two immediate objectives: to reduce the number of landmine and UXO-related injuries in the Jaffna peninsula and to return land that has been surveyed and cleared of mines back to communities for productive use. It is hoped that local institutional capacity will be developed by the end of the project period to replicate those activities in other mine-affected areas.

142. The Governments of Australia and the Netherlands have contributed more than $500,000 so far and it is expected that, once level 2 survey activities are under way, additional cost sharing will be forthcoming.

VI. Lessons learned: Kosovo

143. Many mine action assistance programmes have been initiated by the United Nations since the formulation a year ago of the United Nations mine action policy and the establishment of the United Nations Mine Action Service. The mine action programme in Kosovo is, however, the only programme to have been developed as an emergency response to a humanitarian crisis. As such, it already provides a number of useful lessons learned for similar future situations.

144. UNMIK was unique in that, working from previous experience in Bosnia and Herzegovina and drawing upon current experience worldwide, the Mine Action Service decided to concentrate on coordination when setting up the Mine Action Centre in Pristina, subsequently renamed the Mine Action Coordination Centre. In deciding to forgo implementation activities and focus instead on global coordination, planning and prioritization issues, the Mine Action Coordination Centre was able to take advantage of the strengths of various mine action partners working in Kosovo. United Nations bodies worked to facilitate international consensus-building and to refine core coordination functions, for example, while non-governmental organizations and commercial companies capitalized on their proven flexibility in implementing field activities.

145. Kosovo was also unique with regard to the very early role that the United Nations Office for Project Services played in implementing the emergency programme there. Kosovo was the first instance in which the Office, as the United Nations system provider of services, was given responsibility at the outset for the United Nations effort to execute the mine action programme on behalf of the United Nations Mine Action Service under peacekeeping auspices. The consistent and stabilizing role of the Office in Kosovo will ultimately ensure a smooth transition of country programme responsibilities from emergency to long-term development and should be repeated in future United Nations mine action programmes.

146. The Kosovo experience has also shown that emergency preparedness is essential to ensure a timely and integrated mine action response in an emergency situation. In that regard, it is important to appreciate that early mine action efforts in Kosovo were strengthened by the close proximity of assets previously in place in Bosnia and Herzegovina and by emergency resources provided by donors, notably the United Kingdom, that enabled an initial coordination capability to be put into place in the initial stages of the

emergency. Recognizing that future mine action emergencies will not necessarily benefit from such timely accessibility, a stand-by inter-agency assessment capacity should be established in order to immediately determine the extent and nature of any potential emergency mine awareness intervention. Indeed, the importance of a United Nations presence at the very beginning of a potential emergency situation should not be underestimated. As was illustrated in Kosovo, early United Nations participation in the decision-making process provided it with an opportunity to develop better coordination and prioritization policies between all relevant mine action partners.

147. Ideally, such an assessment capacity would include implementing organizations (the United Nations, ICRC, non-governmental organizations) and representation of donor Governments, ensuring a coordinated approach and immediate follow-up action. The establishment of trained IMSMA database operators, a stand-by mine/UXO awareness instructor/training capacity to enable implementation of emergency mine awareness programme components would also be of great value. Experience in Kosovo has shown that an inordinate amount of time was spent trying to locate mine awareness instructors and deploy them to the field. An emergency preparedness capability would also require a sufficient supply of mine awareness materials, training manuals and curricula to be rapidly adopted to emergency requirements. With regard to victim assistance, it was realized that mine incident reports are an important source of information assisting in the prioritization of clearance operations and mine awareness activities. An improved emergency preparedness capability would allow for the establishment of a mine injury surveillance system based on the IMSMA database.

148. Employed for the first time in Kosovo, the IMSMA database proved invaluable in support of proper monitoring, planning and programme implementation. The ability to collate and disseminate relevant information collected from a variety of disparate sources, combined with a GIS capability, significantly enhanced existing information management capabilities. Just as important was the fact that the IMSMA field module was made available by the Mine Action Coordination Centre right at the very beginning and that this single database was used by all of the major bodies involved in mine action activities in Kosovo, including KFOR and non-governmental organizations. Such international collaboration in the field, using standardized information-gathering techniques under the coordinating aegis of a United Nations mine action coordination centre, is of particular significance and should be encouraged in future emergency mine action programmes.

149. The successful initiation of emergency mine action activities in Kosovo demonstrated that, with the requisite political will and the provision of necessary resources, an effective rapid response capability can be forged and applied by the international community. In that regard, the immediate deployment of additional resources by individual donors outside of the Voluntary Trust Fund is noted and appreciated. Certain limitations, however, currently prevent relevant United Nations bodies from taking such conditions for granted. While it is understood that mine action in support of peacekeeping mandates is to be financed from assessed contributions and mine action in support of humanitarian mandates is to be financed from voluntary contributions, the United Nations should retain in all instances the possibility of using the implementation modalities deemed most appropriate and effective. Donors should also recognize that voluntary contributions that have been earmarked for use in specific programmes inadvertently handicap the efforts of the United Nations Mine Action Service to deal with unexpected emergency situations and underfunded priority humanitarian programmes. As was illustrated in Kosovo, the benefits of being able to direct financial resources in a more flexible and timely manner should not be underestimated. It is recognized, however, that an improved mechanism for donor information and donor coordination is necessary before such flexibility can be implemented. Responding to requests made by donors, the Mine Action Service is working to develop the reporting format further.

VII. Resource mobilization

150. Though the level of interest in the global landmine crisis remains high, the focus of concern for humanitarian and development assistance by donor Governments and donor organizations is constantly being pulled in many directions. Each new humanitarian crisis inevitably draws the world's attention and resources away from other, equally worthwhile causes.

151. That situation notwithstanding, donor Governments and philanthropic organizations have responded generously to the landmine crisis. Figures presented at the First Meeting of States Parties to the Ottawa Convention indicate that approximately $500 million have been directed to mine action efforts worldwide thus far. Though those funds have enabled significant progress to be made in the last three to five years, much more remains to be done. Indeed, the investment in both saving lives and reining in terror needs

to be sustained over the medium-term in order to effectively turn the tide in this continuing tragedy.

152. Sustaining the humanitarian investment can only come from a commitment by those donor Governments and funding organizations that have been called upon to provide the much-needed resources for the multiple aspects of mine action activities, including mine clearance, mine awareness, victim assistance and advocacy work.

153. Resource mobilization is one of the cornerstone activities of the United Nations in its fight against the scourge of landmines. The United Nations Mine Action Service, in its capacity as focal point, coordinates and facilitates the mobilization of resources for mine action within the United Nations system. That endeavour requires a shared vision and collective effort by different United Nations agencies and bodies, including UNDP, the United Nations Office for Project Services, UNICEF and WHO, which have all, along with the United Nations Mine Action Service, developed mine action projects and programmes requiring sustained donor support.

154. One of the principal tools of the United Nations for sharing information and in raising resources is the portfolio of mine-related projects. That document, which is produced annually by the United Nations Mine Action Service, presents an up-to-date global picture of both existing and nascent mine action projects that are implemented under the auspices of United Nations departments and agencies. The most recent portfolio produced for the period from April 1999 to April 2000 contains information on mine action projects in 20 countries, as well as information on global programmes to monitor the landmine threat and evaluate thematic programmes in mine awareness, mine victim assistance and mine action technology. The portfolio is presented to each mission to the United Nations and to other relevant organizations for consulting with national capitals on how to direct funding of United Nations programmes.

155. In addition to mobilizing resources, the United Nations is developing a database of mine action investments. Governments that are members of the Mine Action Support Group have called on the United Nations Mine Action Service to develop an electronic remote access system in which donors will be able to both access information and download financial data with respect to how they are directing funds for mine action: into which mine-contaminated countries, for what specific programme categories (such as mine awareness or mine clearance) and through which funding channels (bilateral assistance, United Nations trust funds or non-governmental organizations). It is hoped that this powerful tool, which will be made available at the Web site of the United Nations Mine Action Service, will allow for improved policy development and dialogue, and better planning for how resources should be directed to address priority problems.

156. With regard to those resources which the United Nations Mine Action Service manages within the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action, donors will notice significant improvements in reporting on contributions. Enhanced legal instruments for directing funds to both United Nations entities and non-governmental organizations, as well as improved systems monitoring how resources are being utilized, have been instituted in 1999. The results of those efforts will bear fruit in the year 2000 and beyond.

157. The United Nations Mine Action Service will continue to promote the belief that mine action should remain high on the list of donor Governments' humanitarian priorities, to reinforce the need for sustained investment in the medium-term and to demonstrate exactly how existing quality management tools will enhance mine action coordination within the United Nations system.

Notes

[1] APLC/MSP.1/1999/1.

[2] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex B.

[3] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I).

Annex

Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action

A. Total contributions by donor, as at 7 October 1999

(United States dollars)

Donors	*Payments*	*Pledges*	*Total*
Member States and countries with observer status			
Andorra	10 000.00	-	10 000.00
Austria	258 348.24	-	258 348.24
Australia	757 257.36	250 000.00	1 007 257.36
Belgium	1 819 746.26	-	1 819 746.26
Brazil	3 000.00	-	3 000.00
Cambodia	1 000.00	-	1 000.00
Canada	2 441 952.79	-	2 441 952.79
China	100 000.00	-	100 000.00
Croatia	1 000.00	-	1 000.00
Czech Republic	22 500.00	-	22 500.00
Denmark	5 158 710.70	-	5 158 710.70
Finland	232 022.75	100 000.00	332 022.75
France	721 021.90	-	721 021.90
Germany	2 056 924.46	-	2 056 924.46
Greece	80 000.00	-	80 000.00
Holy See	4 000.00	-	4 000.00
Iceland	10 000.00	-	10 000.00
Indonesia	40 000.00	-	40 000.00
Ireland	1 070 341.10	-	070 341.10
Israel	98 000.00	-	98 000.00
Italy	1 205 283.95	554 139.42	1 759 423.37
Japan	10 162 060.00	-	10 162 060.00
Korea	350 000.00	-	350 000.00
Liechtenstein	47 656.20	-	47 656.20
Luxembourg	352 753.98	-	352 753.98
Malta	1 952.00	-	1 952.00
Mauritius	10 000.00	-	10 000.00
Monaco	41 629.00	-	41 629.00
Namibia	500.00	-	500.00
Netherlands	513 294.32	-	513 294.32
New Zealand	462 750.00	-	462 750.00
Norway	4 328 057.78	-	4 328 057.78
Portugal	150 000.00	-	150 000.00
Saudi Arabia	50 000.00	-	50 000.00
Slovakia	10 000.00	-	10 000.00

Donors	*Payments*	*Pledges*	*Total*
Spain	1 230 973.21	105 000.00	1 335 973.21
Sweden	1 514 954.47	-	1 514 954.47
Switzerland	3 482 698.04	345 000.00	3 827 698.04
United Kingdom	2 198 862.57	-	2 198 862.57
United States of America	2 200 000.00	477 500.00	2 677 500.00
Subtotal	**43 199 251.08**	**1 831 639.42**	**45 030 890.50**
Other sources			
European Union	9 709 767.60	5 515 000.00	15 224 767.60
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	-	-	-
United Nations Development Programme	-	-	-
United Nations Children's Fund	-	-	-
Individuals	6 596.08	-	6 596.08
Subtotal	**9 716 363.68**	**5 515 000.00**	**15 231 363.68**
Total	**52 915 614.76**	**7 346 639.42**	**60 262 254.18**

B. Total contributions by earmarking, as at 7 October 1999

(United States dollars)

Earmarking	*Payments*	*Pledges*	*Total*
Programmes			
Afghanistan	1 262 190.02	-	1 262 190.02
Angola	7 936 204.38	250 000.00	8 186 204.38
Azerbaijan	500 000.00	-	500 000.00
Bosnia and Herzegovina	9 802 933.40	345 000.00	10 147 933.40
Cambodia	650 000.00	-	650 000.00
Chad	400 000.00	-	400 000.00
Croatia	4 529 252.38	1 350 000.00	5 879 252.38
Ethiopia	25 000.00	-	25 000.00
Guatemala	200 000.00	-	200 000.00
Lao People's Democratic Republic	450 000.00	250 000.00	700 000.00
Mozambique	4 434 561.37	605 000.00	5 039 561.37
Nicaragua	475 000.00	52 500.00	527 500.00
Somalia	324 000.00	120 000.00	444 000.00
Sudan	199 442.00	-	199 442.00
Tajikistan	375 000.00	215 000.00	590 000.00
Thailand	400 000.00	-	400 000.00
Yugoslavia (Kosovo)	1 627 430.39	3 505 000.00	5 132 430.39
Yemen	1 627 832.21	-	1 627 832.21
Subtotal, programmes	**35 218 846.14**	**6 692 500.00**	**41 911 345.14**

Earmarking	*Payments*	*Pledges*	*Total*
Conferences			
Geneva, July 1995	780 027.19	-	780 027.19
Copenhagen, July 1996	382 000.00	-	382 000.00
Tokyo, March 1997	155 447.00	-	155 447.00
Subtotal, Conferences	**1 317 474.19**	-	**1 317 474.19**
Multi-country study	386 967.21	-	386 967.21
Safety handbook	100 000.00	-	100 000.00
Subtotal, projects	**486 967.21**	-	**486 967.21**
Ottawa Convention	393 626.52	-	393 626.52
Headquarters coordination	5 171 129.09	-	5 171 129.09
Emergencies	120 500.00	-	120 500.00
Total earmarked	**42 708 543.15**	**6 692 500.00**	**49 401 043.15**
Unearmarked	9 840 276.61	654 139.42	10 494 416.03
(to be determined)	366 795.00	-	366 795.00
Total	**52 915 614.76**	**7 346 639.42**	**60 262 254.18**